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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT Categories of Hotels and HAN's / Documents
Required / Rural Temporary Housing Facilities/
Hospitality Customs / Administration of Hotels
and HAN's

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. "The following information dates through August 1952.

Categories of Hotels and Inns

2. "Throughout the whole of Albania there exist no privately-owned or privately-administered hotels or inns. All are owned and administered by the State.
3. "Such accommodations for transients may be divided into three categories:

A. Luxury Hotel:

There exists only one luxury hotel in the whole of Albania: the Hotel Dajti on Blv. Shqipria e Re, Tirana. It was built by the Italians in 1941-45. Nowadays it is used only by diplomats of foreign missions, legations and embassies and by privileged Albanian citizens: members of the Kuvendit Popullor (People's Parliament); members and candidates of the Komiteti Qendror Partis Punes Shqipris (Central Committee of the Albanian Labor Party); directors of plants, institutions and cooperatives; and members of institutes of learning.

Price for single room with bath (minimum): 300 lek per night.

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25X1B. Normal Hotels:

Tirana: Following is a list of the hotels in Tirana which are open to all ordinary citizens, provided payment can be made. Electric power and water are available in any room. Prices for one night, without bath-room but including service, are given. There are also rooms with private baths.

Hotel London	Rr. Harrikadave	100-200 lek per night (single)
Hotel Splendid	Rr. 28 Nandor	" " "
Hotel Bristol	Rr. Dursit	" " "
Hotel Durres	Rr. Pazari Vjeter	" " "
Hotel Balkan	Rr. Pazari Vjeter	" " "
Hotel Adriatik	Rr. Navajies	" " "
Hotel Internacional	Rr. Dursit	" " "
Hotel (?)	Blv. Sh. e Re	" " "
Hotel Continental	Rr. 28 Nandor	" " "

In addition, the Bujtina e Shoqates Invalidive (Hotel of the Invalids' Association) maintains in Tirana -- and only in Tirana -- two hotels on the same street (I have forgotten the name), just next to the State cafe, Kafe Ferlin. These hotels are open to all citizens and charge the same prices as those above. The profits go to the Invalids' Association.

Durres: There are only three hotels in Durres. All have running water and electricity.

Hotel Volga (formerly Dogi)	Rr. Cyrilavet	100-200 lek per night (single)
Hotel Adriatik	Rr. Mujo Ulqinaku	" " "
Hotel Shpia Beqarit	Rr. Mujo Ulqinaku	I do not know the rates. Available only to single officers of the Albanian Armed Forces. Payment for officers' lodgings deducted from monthly pay.

Shkoder: The following hotels in Shkoder have electric power, running water and bathrooms. I do not know the addresses.

Hotel Kafe e Madhe	100-200 lek per night (single)
Hotel International	" " "
Hotel Balkan	" " "

Kukes: This town has only two hotels.

Hotel No. 1 Situated in center of town. 100-200 lek per night (single), electric power available but no running water.

Hotel No. 2 100-200 lek per night (single). No bathrooms.

In Kukes and the other Albanian regional capitals, apart from Tirana, Durres and Shkoder, the hotels bear numbers, not names.

C. Taverns (HAN's):

This is the lowest type of hotel, if hotel it can be called. There are many HAN's in the suburbs of Tirana, Durres, Shkoder and other towns. They bear no numbers, only the inscription: N.T.I.H.R. - HAN. There are four or five in the suburbs of Tirana, one at Kukes, three or four at Shkoder. There are no HAN's in small towns or villages.

These HAN's have no running water or electricity. They provide kerosene lamps and small basins for washing. There are no beds with proper bedding. People may sleep 15 to a room sized 6 x 6 meters. Each person receives two blankets and sleeps on the floor which is covered with rogoz (straw matting). HAN facilities cost per person per night 100 lek, which includes shelter for his horse. Food for the horse is additional. For a person alone the charge is 50 lek.

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25X1Required Documentation for Hotels and HAN's

4. "Room fees are paid in advance.
5. "In getting a place to sleep the only required documentation is the Peter-Njofitimi (Identity Card). The Menpursi (porter) takes down all necessary data and returns the card to the bearer, since it is needed when a person walks on the streets. During the night, when the transient is asleep, the Peter-Njofitimi is retained by the porter. That is because the S.S.H. (Security Police - Sigurimi Shtetit) make checks every night at midnight. Sometimes an officer but normally a NCO checks documents with the porter. The transients are not awakened unless there are some doubts about identities.
6. "Sometimes rooms are checked to see whether there are any unmarried couples. According to regulations, only married couples may share rooms. They must possess a Dokument - Celebriim (marriage certificate) or have official notes in their Identity Cards. This regulation holds true only for hotels and HAN's. If a man and a woman want to live together in a regular room, the procedure is simple: inform the Kryetar (president) of the Kshilli Lagja (town sub-sector) concerned that X has moved into that room on such and such day; a simple registration of transfer of residence and that is all.
7. "A person from Tirana who comes, for example, to Kukes (a capital town in the border-zone) is not required to leave his Leje-Qarkullimi (Border Zone Permit) with the porter at night, only his Peter-Njofitimi. However, any person arriving in a border-zone area must report to the S.S.H. within 24 hours.

Houring Facilities in Towns and Villages

8. "There are no hotels or HAN's in any Albanian localities (lokalitet) or villages (katund). The only way for an ordinary citizen to get accommodation is to knock at someone's door and request hospitality. This will bring results in northern Albania, where Hospitality is extended to anyone in accordance with the tenets of the Mohammedan religion. In southern Albania the situation is different; it depends on the family.
9. "State employees (officials or persons within the Government's 'field of labor', e.g. schoolteachers) who arrive late at night in a locality or village with no place to sleep may apply to the Kryetar of the local People's Board. I know that in Krume the Kryetar orders the duty guard (Folic-Lokaliteti) to take the visitor to get free lodging with a family of the locality, the family designated by the Kryetar. In villages the Kryetar of the village charges the village duty guard (Folik-Katundi) to take the visitor to a designated family for free lodging.
10. "Every two months each village, through the Kryetar of the local village People's Board, provides one farmer for the People's Board of the Lokalitet upon which that village depends. Thirteen villages, for example, depend on Krume. Therefore, 13 farmers are at the disposal of the Kryetar of the People's Board of Krume. They wear their normal farm dress but are armed with the old Italian rifle called Puzece-Italiane (40 bullets). They comprise the Folic-Lokaliteti. They are not paid for their services. They must bring their own food from their village. They receive free lodging from the Krume People's Board. They do receive a food ration card (Triska). This service is obligatory and is performed in rotation, according to the orders of the village Kryetars. The tour of duty is two months. In each village there is also a Folik-Katundi, who is also the courier and postman of the village. He wears his normal civilian clothes and is armed with a Puzece-Italiane rifle. There is one Folik in each village. He is paid by the People's Board of the village. This is a normal assignment.
11. "The family designated by the Kryetar of the Lokalitet or village provides the free lodging. The farmers demonstrate through their behavior toward lodgers their discontent and disapproval. The best thing for the visitor to do, especially in northern Albania, is (even if he comes within the Government's field of labor and is therefore entitled to apply to the Kryetar for lodging) to make a direct, polite request for hospitality, since this can never be refused. He will furthermore be given food, if the farmer has it. He will not be given food if he arrives on the Kryetar's assignment. In northern Albania the Mohammedan religion obliges any family to grant hospitality to anyone.

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12. "Small rural houses are planned in an unusual way: a room for married couples, a room for males, a room for females, separate rooms for female guests and separate rooms for male guests. When a person requests hospitality, the wife of the head of the family (who naturally wears a veil) must wash the feet of the guest and give him food. If the family is so poor that no food is available, the minimum that must be offered, according to tradition, is a piece of bread and a little salt. The guest is then taken to either the male or the female guestroom. The following day the only thing the guest must do is thank the head of the family.

Administration of Hotels and HAN's

13. "The State administration of hotels and HAN's is organized as follows:

- (a) Kryeministria (Presidency of the Council of Ministers), Blv. Shqipria e Re, Tirana, which supervises the:
 - (1) The N.T.U.H.R. or Ndermarija Tregtare Lokale Hotel Restaurant (State Commercial Enterprise for Cafes, Hotels and Restaurants). Main offices situated over the Kafe Berlin (State Coffee House) on Blv. Shqipria e Re, Tirana. This organization administers all hotels, HAN's, state coffee houses and restaurants.
 - (2) The N.T.U.V. or Ndermarija Tregtare Lokale Vesh-Mbathjes (State Enterprise for Clothing and Shoes). Main offices in the building occupied by the Musulman Committee at Rr. Barrikadavet, Tirana. That Committee now has only two rooms there for its activities.
 - (3) The N.T.L.A.P. or Ndermarija Tregtare Lokale Artikujvet Te Perzime (State Commercial Enterprise for Re-Sale of Various Articles: paper, ink, typewriters etc.) Main offices at Rr. Barrikadavet, Tirana.
 - (4) The N.T.L.I. or Ndermarija Tregtare Lokale Industriale (State Commercial Enterprise for Re-Sale of Industrial Goods: ploughs, shovels, hammers etc.) Main offices on Rr. e Dursit, Tirana.
 - (5) The K.K.T. or Kooperativa Konsumit Tirana (Consumption Cooperatives, Tirana). Main offices on Pazari Ri, Tirana. These are the State Food Re-sale Stores which are open only to citizens in possession of a Triska (food ration card). There are food cooperative stores in any town and in small towns but not in villages.
 - (6) All Kooperativa Shit-Blejjes (Cooperatives for the Exchange of Goods in Kind). Such cooperatives exist in Tirana and in any regional capital or locality. They exist in some villages. Any person may exchange goods there in kind, but these cooperatives accept only food commodities in exchange for clothing. They accept no cash. Main offices on Rr. e Dursit, Tirana.
 - (7) All Kooperativa Grumbullimit (Cooperatives for Delivery of Goods). Main offices on Rr. e Dursit, Tirana. These cooperatives exist only in Tirana and the other regional capitals. The farmers deliver their agricultural quotas to these cooperatives. They may receive payments in kind or cash. These cooperatives serve farmers only.
 - (8) The N.T.L.A.M.N.G. or Ndermarija Tregtare Lokale Automjete Mbrendeshem Ndrimi Goma (State Commercial Enterprise for Vehicles and Spare Automotive Parts). Main offices on Rr. e Dursit, Tirana.

14. "Note: the organizations (1), (2), (3), (4) and (8) above depend on the General Union of Cooperatives, whence they receive directives, but come under the immediate supervision of the Seksioni Tregtis (Commerce Section) of the respective Komitet Ekz. K.P. of the city or town concerned. They have ties also with the Seksioni Finances (Finance Section) of the same People's Board Executive Committees for funds and payments. Thus, employees of a hotel, HAN etc. receive their pay from the Finance Section of the Executive Committee of the People's Board to which they are administratively subordinate.

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15. "Salaries of hotel or HAN employees range as follows:

Director	-- 4000-6000 leks monthly
Porter	- 2070-3000 leks monthly
Male or female help	- 2070-3000 leks monthly; no difference between males and females.

These employees receive no family allowances. The working day is eight hours. No overtime. A special roster for night duty is arranged by rotation. No extra pay for night work.

16. "I have no information on S.SH. informers in the hotels and HAN's. The only hotel which has a telephone installed in every room is the luxury Hotel Djati."

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